

Message Text

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ACTION IO-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-15 EA-12

EUR-12 NEA-11 SOE-02 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-09 SP-02 SS-15

STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 SMS-01 /204 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4585

INFO DOE WASHDC

UNCLAS GENEVA 14660

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECE, ENRG, EMIN

SUBJECT: ECE COAL COMMITTEE MEETING

1. ECE COAL COMMITTEE MEETING WAS HELD IN GENEVA FROM SEPT 25-29, 1978. A REVIEW OF THE WORLD COAL SITUATION INDICATED THAT IN 1977 WORLD COAL PRODUCTION REACHED A RECORD LEVEL OF 2465 MILLION METRIC TONS OF BITUMINOUS COAL AND 925 MMT OF LIGNITE; U.S. REMAINED THE WORLD LEADING PRODUCER OF COAL, ACCOUNTING FOR 26 PERCENT OF WORLD PRODUCTION; SOVIET UNION WAS SECOND WITH 500 MMT; CONTINUED DEPRESSED CONDITIONS HAD A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON COKING COAL FOR STEEL; AN INCREASE IN INTERNATIONAL STEAM COAL TRADE DUE TO PRICE ADVANTAGE WAS NOTED; AN INCREASE IN EXPORTS FROM SOVIET UNION AND POLAND AND DECREASE FROM U.S. (DUE TO COAL STRIKE) WAS DISCUSSED.

2. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE COAL COMMITTEE INCLUDED:

A. A STUDY ON THE LONG TERM COAL PROSPECTS BEYOND 1985.

B. A STUDY ON LONG DISTANT TRANSPORT OF COAL.

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C. AN ECE COAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM PROJECT IN CONJUNCTION WITH ISO (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION).

D. RE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION CENTER ON COAL GASIFICATION IN KATOWICE, POLAND, AN

AD HOC MEETING WILL BE HELD IN FEBRUARY TO DEFINE AND CLARIFY FUNDING, STAFF, LEGAL AND POLITICAL DETAILS.

E. THE QUARTERLY COAL STATISTICS REPORT WILL BE CONTINUED. SOVIET UNION INDICATED THEY PREFERRED AN ANNUAL REPORT. U.S. WILL ASSIST IN REDESIGNING COAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR COMPUTERIZATION.

F. SOVIET UNION, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA INDICATED THE NEED FOR A SENIOR LEVEL ENERGY CONFERENCE TO IMPROVE INTER-EUROPEAN ENERGY COOPERATION. U.S., FRG AND EEC RESPONDED NOTING RESOLUTION IN ANNUAL EEC MEETING OF APRIL 1978 REJECTING THIS PROPOSAL. VAN DEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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